



ACADEMIC WORLDQUEST 2009

PREPARATION GUIDE



Competition questions will be categorized into the following rounds. Participants can prepare for the competition by keeping up with daily international news events and global trends, familiarizing themselves with world leaders, geography, and country flags, and, of course, paying attention in class!

ROUND 1 – WORLD CULTURES

Culture, languages, religions, music, arts, sports, and behaviors in different countries and regions

ROUND 2 – GEOGRAPHY

Countries/regions of the world including topics such as topography, country/capital identification, landmarks, borders and boundaries and region/country statistics

ROUND 3 – FLAGS

Flag identification through pictures and descriptions

ROUND 4 – THE WORLD IN THE 20TH CENTURY

Noteworthy events, discoveries, leaders, political movements, and conflicts of the 20th Century

ROUND 5 – GLOBAL ECONOMY AND BUSINESS

Terminology, currency, institutions, players, and trends of the global economy, and knowledge of business culture and practices worldwide

ROUND 6 – PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Current world leaders and individuals involved with international issues

ROUND 7 – CURRENT EVENTS

Recent events and trends in international affairs

ROUND 8 – GLOBALIZATION

Achievements, developments, and challenges presented by globalization

ROUND 9 – GLOBAL POTPOURRI

International pop culture, facts, geography, flags, language, events (past and present), and quotes

INFORMATION LEARNED THROUGH YOUR SCHOOL'S COURSES IN THE FOLLOWING SUBJECT AREAS WILL BE INCREDIBLY USEFUL IN THIS COMPETITION...

- World Cultures
- World History
- Economics
- International Affairs
- Global Issues
- U.S. History
- Government
- Current Affairs
- Foreign Language

SUGGESTED WEBSITES...

NEWS SITES

BBC World Service

www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice

CNN-World

<http://edition.cnn.com/WORLD/>

Financial Times

www.ft.com

The New York Times

www.nytimes.com

The Wall Street Journal

www.wsj.com

GLOBALIZATION

Globalization101

www.globalization101.org

Commanding Heights (PBS)

www.pbs.org/wgbh/commandingheights/hi/story/index.html

CSIS Seven Revolutions

<http://7revs.csis.org> (Economic Integration)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

The Economist

www.economist.com

Foreign Affairs

www.foreignaffairs.org

Foreign Policy

www.foreignpolicy.com

National Geographic

www.nationalgeographic.com

Newsweek Magazine

www.newsweek.com

Time Magazine

www.time.com

U.S. News & World Report

www.usnews.com

ONLINE QUIZZES

Geo-Bee Daily Challenge

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee>

FPA Week in Review Quizzes

www.fpa.org (on Fridays)

BBC Quiz of the Week's News

news.bbc.co.uk

OTHER USEFUL SITES FOR GENERAL INFORMATION, GEOGRAPHY, AND COUNTRY FLAGS

CIA World Factbook

www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html

United Nations

www.un.org

U.S. Department of State

www.state.gov

My Wonderful World

www.mywonderfulworld.com

InfoPlease Timelines

<http://www.infoplease.com/spot/timelinearchive.html>

Other International Organizations websites (NATO, the OAS, European Union, etc.) will also be useful.

SUGGESTED PUBLICATION...

***The New York Times Almanac 2008*, Section entitled "The World"**

SAMPLE QUESTIONS...

1. In February 2008, _____ became the world's newest country.

- a. Kosovo
- b. Montenegro
- c. Macedonia
- d. Bosnia and Herzegovina

2. Where are the headquarters of the Al-Jazeera television network located?

- a. Amman, Jordan
- b. Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- c. Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
- d. Doha, Qatar

3. In 2007, what country was deemed "Most Livable Country" by the UN's Human Development Index (HDI)?

4. Which of the following countries does NOT share a border with Brazil?

- a. Bolivia
- b. Argentina
- c. Ecuador
- d. Venezuela

(Answers: 1-a; 2-d; 3-Iceland; 4-c)